

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

***Please replace paragraph [0073] with the following amended paragraph:***

**[0073]** Filter bars 6 with an n-fold working length are fed to a connecting line 1 by a filter bar sender via a pipeline (not shown here) of a filter production machine. Filter bars 6 are conveyed in a spaced manner to connecting line 1 in the feed pipe and then arrive in a curved guide 2, in order to be braked in a channel 5 by braking rollers 3. Then, filter bars 6 are conveyed by an accelerating roller 4 via a guide (not shown) into a drum 7. Drum 7 has seat grooves in which conveyed filter bars 6 are arranged. Further details can be taken from the assignee's commonly owned European patent application 02 020 292.5 "Vorrichtung und Verfahren zur Förderung von stabförmigen Filterelementen [Device and process for conveying bar-shaped filter elements]" filed September 11, ~~2003~~ 2002, and its U.S. counterpart application U.S. Patent Application No. [Attorney Docket # P24085], and the ~~disclosure~~ disclosures of which ~~is~~ are expressly incorporated by reference herein ~~its entirety~~ in their entirety.